USAID Environmental Procedures applied to Subgrant or "Umbrella" projects



What are "umbrella" projects?

- Basic characteristics:
 - Large number of small-scale activities being funded under a larger project
 - Activities are not fully defined at the time of proposal submission (e.g., communitydefined activities)
 - Lack of definition poses difficulties for the traditional IEE process!



Examples

- Typical "umbrella" situations:
 - Subgrants--PVOs or NGOs receive money from USAID and give sub-grants to other organizations
 - USAID gives grants to a number of partner organizations to carry out small-scale activities under a single, larger project
 - → E.g., West Bank & Gaza Community Services Program



Applying the IEE to "umbrella projects"

- When activities are not defined:
 - The Mission or partner submits an "umbrella IEE"
 - Umbrella IEE sets out a NEGATIVE DETERMINATION WITH CONDITIONS
 - The condition is that activities (subgrants or otherwise) are subject to environmental review and documentation as they are defined
 - Generally call this "subgrant environmental review"



Subgrant environmental review: a summary

- The partner completes environmental screening forms for the sub-grant projects as they are defined
- Screening forms are compatible to the regular Reg. 216 Screening process
- Screening forms indicate if an "environmental review" (ER) and/or Mission scrutiny of activity is necessary
- An ER is similar to an IEE



Who has responsibility?

- Responsible party is legally responsible for assuring that sub-grants are environmentally sound
 - Responsible party=
 - → lead Partner for subgrant programs
 - → Grantee in direct grant programs



Subgrant screening approaches

- No single model exists
- Training materials provide 3 models:
 - AFR model
 - Revised/proposed AFR model
 - West Bank & Gaza model developed for community services program



WBG model

- Defines a screening process based on Reg 216 categories
- Screening results in 1 of 3 classifications:
 - Very low risk
 - Very high risk
 - Self-certification

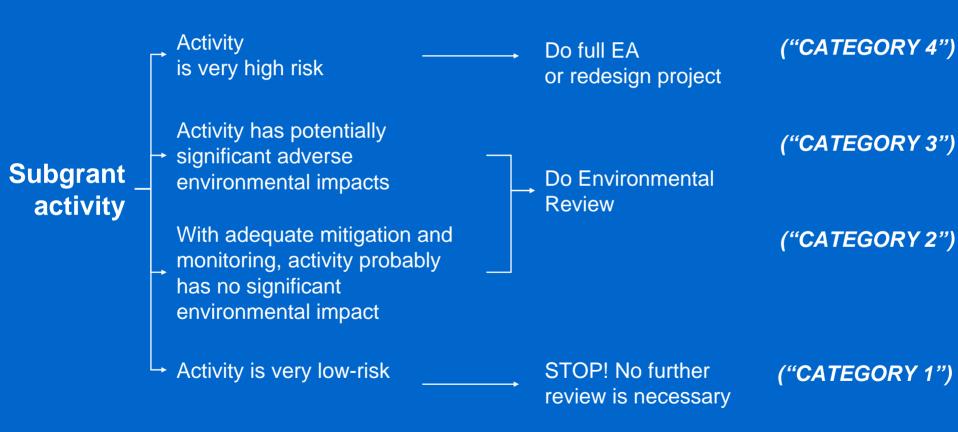


WBG model

- Very high risk triggers mission oversight and potentially an EA
- Self-certification involves a commitment to best practices and mitigation
 - Grantees are encouraged to write an environmental review (like an IEE) to determine appropriate mitigation



Subgrant screening: AFR model





AFR model

- Category definitions are very similar to Reg 216 categories
 - Category 1 (very low-risk)
 - →= categorical exclusion
 - Category 3 & 4 (moderate and high-risk)
 - →= activities usually demanding a full EA under Reg 216
 - Category 2
 - → Subgrants that would normally qualify for a negative determination under Reg. 16, based on the fact that the grantee used an environmentally-sound approach to the activity design and incorporated appropriate mitigation and monitoring procedures.



AFR model

Analysis required when result of subgrant screening is:

 Category 1 	— Screening f	orm
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Category 2
 Screening form +
 Environmental review

• Category 3 Screening form + Environmental review

Category 4Screening form + Full EA



What does an Environmental Review look like?

- 1.0 PROGRAM/PROJECT DESCRIPTION
- 2.0 COUNTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION (BASELINE INFORMATION)
- 3.0 EVALUATION OF PROJECT/PROGRAM ISSUES WITH RESPECT TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT POTENTIAL
- 4.0 RECOMMENDED MITIGATION (INCLUDING MONITORING AND EVALUATION)

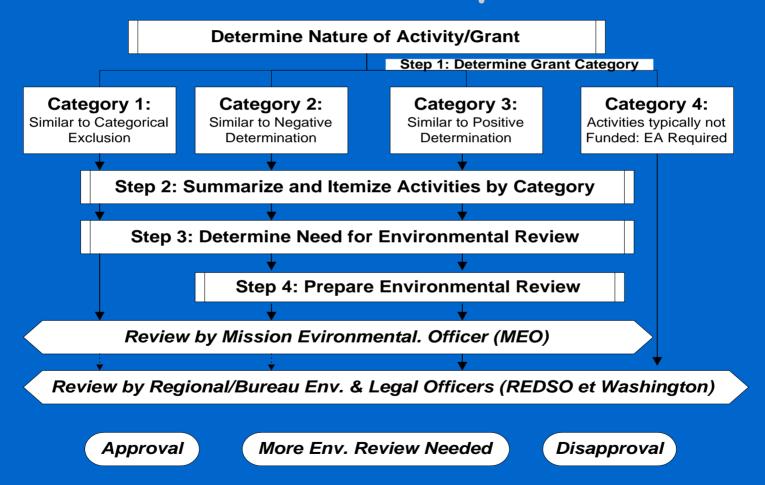


AFR model

- Screening forms and environmental reviews go to MEO
 - Categories 1 and 2 can be approved by the USAID Mission.
 - Categories 3 and 4 must have Regional and Bureau review to determine if an EA is needed.
- USAID may accept or reject the finding of the screening form/environmental review, or require more analysis



Summary: AFR Subgrant screening and env. review process





Revised/proposed AFR model

- Intermediate between AFR and WBG models
- Eliminates complicated category classification scheme of AFR
- But requires (not suggests) IEE-like Environmental Reviews for all but the lowest-risk activities

